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TRUMP TRANSITION NEWS

Trump's energy team overhauled

E&E Publishing, LLC

November 21, 2016



President-elect Donald Trump's energy and environmental transition staff has been drastically reshaped.

The transition team announced today that Thomas Pyle, president of the American Energy Alliance, will be taking over as head of the Energy Department transition operation. Doug Domenech, former Virginia secretary of natural

UPCOMING EVENTS

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resources and a George W. Bush administration Interior Department staffer, will lead Interior's transition operation.

The Trump team said Myron Ebell, a well-known climate skeptic and the head of the U.S. EPA transition operation, continues to lead that agency's team.

Several top transition team members have departed as others have taken their slots on teams overseeing energy policies and on the so-called landing teams expected to arrive this week in DOE, the Interior Department and other agencies. The shake-ups come after the Trump team announced a crackdown on registered lobbyists last week and amid a broader staffing overhaul made when Vice President-elect Mike Pence replaced New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie as head of the transition team. [>>Continue reading](#)

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Oil, gas and nuclear industries anticipate friendly Trump DOE [>>Read here](#)

What a Trump Presidency Means for Nuclear Stocks [>>Read here](#)

WASTE TREATMENT & TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Key SRS contractors working together in pre-startup of salt waste plant

The Augusta Chronicle

November 19, 2016

Two major contractors at Savannah River Site are working together to help the pre-startup work for the plant processing radioactive liquid waste stored in tanks at the Department of Energy facility.

Savannah River Remediation, the liquid waste contractor at SRS, has hired 20

Waste Management Conference Phoenix, AZ

[More info here](#)

May/June 2017

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INVITATION ONLY

ECA Peer Exchange
Richland, WA

"Formalizing Host Communities' Role in the Manhattan Project National Historical Park"

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radiological protection inspectors through Parsons, the contractor for the Salt Waste Processing Facility. The workers were needed for Savannah River Remediation's current, short-term work in the plant's start-up scheduled for late 2018 and will remain with Parsons as its part of the project ramps up.



The salt waste facility will process about 90 percent of the radioactive liquid waste in tanks at SRS. Savannah River Remediation's part of the project is to connect the existing waste transfer lines to the facility. [>>Continue reading](#)

More to Read:

Shipments of nuclear material to Savannah River Site could continue [>>Read here](#)

Energy Department Announces Agreement to Sell Depleted Uranium to be Enriched for Civil Nuclear Power [>>Read here](#)

U.S. Wants to Build \$1.6B Idaho Facility for Nuclear Waste [>>Read here](#)

WASTE STORAGE & DISPOSITION NEWS

Editorial: Trump, Congress should open \$15B Yucca Mountain

Albuquerque Journal

November 21, 2016

The most radioactive news to come out of President-elect Donald Trump's camp might not involve beauty contestants or entertainment reporters or birth certificates from Hawaii.

It involves a hole in the Nevada desert.

U.S. taxpayers have invested more than \$15 billion over three decades for a final resting place for all of the spent nuclear fuel and high-level nuclear waste produced in the United States. And that investment has resulted in the most expensive and secure and empty underground parking garage in the form of Yucca Mountain, located in a remote part of Nevada between Las Vegas and Reno.

The planned underground repository for spent nuclear fuel from power plants was taken off the table by now-retiring Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., who made sure over his D.C. career there was not sufficient funding to process Yucca's Nuclear Regulatory Commission license application, or the political will to approve it. [>>Continue reading](#)

More to Read:

Many obstacles remain before Yucca Mountain could accept first nuclear waste shipments [>>Read here](#)

WIPP workers return underground [>>Read here](#)

NUCLEAR ENERGY NEWS

Alexander Says Next Congress Has A Prime Opportunity To Ensure Future Of Nuclear Power

The Chattanooga

November 16, 2016



Senator Lamar Alexander, the top Senate Republican on energy appropriations, on Wednesday said the next Congress has a “prime opportunity to ensure nuclear power has a future in our country” and laid out steps that should be taken to spur the development of new nuclear reactors and end the nuclear waste stalemate.

“Today, nuclear produces about 60 percent of our country’s carbon-free electricity, but the U.S. could lose about half our reactors over the next two decades if existing licenses can’t be extended from 60 to 80 years. We need to take steps today to ensure nuclear power has a future in our country, including extending our reactor licenses when it is safe to do so, investing in energy research, ending policies that pick energy winners and losers and ending the nuclear waste stalemate,” Senator Alexander said. [>>Continue reading](#)

MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL PARK NEWS

National park at Hanford turns 1 year old; new super visits

Tri-City Herald

November 13, 2016

Some 13,000 people visited the new Manhattan Project National Historical Park at Hanford in its first year, including — this week — the new park superintendent.

Kris Kirby, newly named to the position, is the park’s first employee.

She’s based in Denver, and is splitting her time between the three sites of the park — Hanford; Oak Ridge, Tenn.; and Los Alamos, N.M. — each of which played a major role in creating the world’s first atomic bombs to help end World War II.

The park was officially created a year ago, with the signing of an agreement between the Department of Energy, owner of Hanford facilities, and the Department of Interior, which includes the national park system. [>>Continue reading](#)

CONTRACTING & ACQUISITION NEWS

EnergySolutions and Valhi to contest DOJ effort to block waste control specialists acquisition

EnergySolutions Press Release

November 16 2016

Salt Lake City, Utah – EnergySolutions and Valhi, Inc. (NYSE: VHI) today announced plans to vigorously defend EnergySolutions’ pending acquisition of Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS) in response to a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) lawsuit seeking to block the transaction.

The DOJ contends that the combined company would be “the only option for customers in nearly 40 states.” In fact, there are numerous disposal sites for LLRW waste operated by the competitors of the two companies. In addition, customers have the option to store on-site, as many have done, rather than ship to one of the many companies offering LLRW disposal. Furthermore, the innovation and price declines for LLRW waste disposal that DOJ cites in its own statements are in fact evidence of other competitors in the marketplace.

This combination is in the best interest of the nuclear industry as it delivers on part of the “Nuclear Promise” strategic plan. Through merging the two companies, the new entity will realize significant cost synergies through a decrease in management, selling, and administration expenses. Those savings, in turn, can be passed on to utilities and consumers of nuclear electricity. In addition, this merger will save costs on nuclear decommissioning. [>>Continue reading](#)
